

**Listing of Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application.

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A process for liquefying starch-containing material comprising treating said starch-containing material with at least one alpha-amylase and a maltogenic amylase, wherein the liquefaction is carried out in three stages, comprising a first stage at a temperature in the range from 80 to 105°C, a second stage at a temperature in the range between 65 to 95°C, and a third stage at a temperature between 40-75°C.

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Claims 2-3. (Canceled)

Claim 4. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 1, wherein the starch-containing material is reduced in size by dry milling.

Claims 5-10. (Canceled)

Claim 11. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 1, wherein the starch-containing material is treated with an esterase<sub>2</sub> and a maltogenic amylase or an alpha-amylase.

Claim 12. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 1, wherein the starch-containing material is corn, wheat, barley, or milo.

Claim 13. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 1, wherein the alpha-amylase or maltogenic amylase is of *Bacillus stearothermophilus* origin.

Claim 14. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 11, wherein the esterase is a lipase, phospholipase, or a cutinase, or a combination thereof.

Claim 15. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 1, wherein further the liquefaction is carried out in the presence of a fatty acid oxidizing enzyme.

Claim 16. (Canceled)

Claim 17. (Withdrawn) A process for producing a fermentation product, comprising

- (a) reducing the size of starch-containing material;
- (b) liquefying the product of step (a) with at least one alpha-amylase and at least one maltogenic amylase as defined in claim 1;
- (c) saccharifying the liquefied material obtained in step (b) with a carbohydrate-source generating enzyme; and
- (d) fermenting the saccharified material using a fermenting microorganism.

Claims 18-19. (Canceled)

Claim 20. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 17, wherein the starch-containing material is reduced in size by dry milling.

Claim 21. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 17, wherein steps b) and c) are carried out as a simultaneous saccharification and fermentation step.

Claim 22. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 17, wherein the starch-containing material is corn, wheat, barley, or milo.

Claim 23. (Canceled)

Claim 24. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 17, wherein the carbohydrate-source generating enzyme is a glucoamylase or an alpha-amylase or mixtures thereof.

Claim 25. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 17, further comprising distilling the fermented material.

Claim 26. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 17, wherein said fermenting microorganism is yeast.

Claims 27-30. (Canceled)

Claim 31. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 17, wherein the liquefaction is carried out in three stages, comprising a first stage at a temperature in the range from 80 to 105°C, a second stage at a temperature in the range between 65 to 95°C, and a third stage at a temperature between 40-75°C.

Claim 32. (Canceled)

Claim 33. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 31, wherein the holding time for stage one is 10 to 90 minutes, 30-120 minutes for the second stage and 30-120 minutes for the third stage.

Claim 34. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 17, wherein the starch-containing material is treated with an esterase, and a maltogenic amylase or an alpha-amylase.

Claims 35-36. (Canceled)

Claim 37. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 34, wherein the esterase is a lipase, phospholipase, or a cutinase, or a combination thereof.

Claim 38. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 17, wherein liquefaction is carried out in the presence of a fatty acid oxidizing enzyme.

Claim 39. (Canceled)

Claim 40. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 17, wherein the fermentation product is ethanol.

Claim 41. (Previously Presented) The process of claims 1, wherein the alpha-amylase or maltogenic amylase is derived from a strain of *Bacillus stearothermophilus*.

Claim 42. (Withdrawn) The process of ~~claim 14~~ claim 38, wherein the fatty acid oxidizing enzyme is a lipoxigenase.

Claim 43. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 38, wherein the fatty acid oxidizing enzyme is a lipoxigenase.

Claim 44. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 36, wherein the alpha-amylase or maltogenic amylase is derived from a strain *Bacillus stearothermophilus*.